HD 4958 .L3

LABOR INFORMATION BULLETIN

VOLUME II JUNE 1935 NUMBER 6

LIBRARY
JUL 22 1935
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Issued by
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U. S. Department of Labor
Washington

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
FRANCES PERKINS, Secretary
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
ISADOR LUBIN, Commissioner

LABOR INFORMATION BULLETIN

JUNE 1935

CONTENTS

WORKERS' EDUCATION UNDER THE F.E.R.A., by Hilda W. Smith ---------- 1

THE COST OF LIVING IN MARCH 1935 ---------- 3

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ---------- 5

OCCUPATIONS OF WORKERS ON RELIEF ---------- 7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS IN MAY 1935:
- MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES ---------- 10
- SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES ---------- 14

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN MAY 1935 ---------- 15

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT AND RELIEF IN MAY 1935 ---------- 16

WHAT HAPPENED TO PRICES IN MAY 1935 ---------- 17

BUSINESS PROFITS AND LOSSES IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1935 ---------- 18

PACIFIC COAST CONFERENCE ON LABOR LEGISLATION ---------- 19

QUESTION AND ANSWER DEPARTMENT ---------- 20

BORIS STERN, Editor

1113-O U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1935

WORKERS' EDUCATION UNDER THE F.E.R.A.

BY

HILDA W. SMITH

SPECIALIST IN WORKERS' EDUCATION, F. E. R. A.

Approximately 40,000 workers are attending weekly or semiweekly workers' education classes, conducted under the supervision of the Educational Division of the F.E.R.A. Close to 1,000 workers' education classes have been established in 31 States. These are located in communities of all sizes, ranging from large metropolitan cities to small towns and backwoods-areas. Workers of all ages and backgrounds -- men and women employed in a variety of occupations and unemployed workers -- constitute the student body of workers' education. A group of miners in Iowa is being taught English by the daughter of an Italian miner; a class in New Mexico is being taught in Spanish; farmers in Wisconsin and Minnesota are studying cooperative marketing and the problems of consumers; textile workers, taxicab drivers, shop girls, and ditch diggers are discussing problems of trade-unionism and questions raised by current State and Federal legislation.

The Educational Division of the F.E.R.A. was established in the autumn of 1933 to provide work relief for unemployed teachers and education for unemployed workers and other adults. Workers' education is only a part of the program of general adult education carried on by the F.E.R.A. in cooperation with the United States Office of Education. Workers' education offices have been established in 19 States, where supervisors of workers' education have been appointed by the State departments of education. Qualified teachers on relief rolls are hired by the State supervisors to conduct workers' study groups organized within the State. Classes are formed in response to requests received from trade unions, industrial groups, and community associations.

In the larger cities, workers' study groups meet in the public schools, union headquarters, and community centers. In many rural communities classes are held in farmhouses and private homes. From a teacher in Arkansas comes this description of such a rural group: "I met my first class last evening. I drove 10 miles over a lonely country road, through a dreary rain, to a poor 3-room farmhouse. There in the living room I found a double half-circle of chairs placed before a crackling fire in the fireplace. A kerosene lamp on the mantle lighted the bare room. By 7 p.m. the chairs were filled with work-hardened men. Soon we were deep in a discussion of the Bankhead Act."

TRAINING TEACHERS FOR WORKERS' EDUCATION

Workers have responded with greatest enthusiasm to courses which throw light upon their own industrial

and economic problems. Attendance is largest and discussions are liveliest in classes in economics and economic history, government, legislation, history of the labor movement, parliamentary law, and specific industrial problems. Classes in English are constantly requested by workers who realize the importance of developing their power of written and oral expression. Classes in painting, modeling, writing, music, and drama also serve to increase the effectiveness of the workers' self-expression.

Typical answers by workers to the question, "Why are you attending workers' education classes", were:

"I want to understand what is happening in the Government."

"I want to know more about labor unions and government so that I can aid the labor movement."

"In these classes I can find what I want to study, taught so that I can understand it, and at a time when I can come."

The worker-students are taught primarily through the discussion method. As the worker's educational equipment is often only his own practical experience, discussions start with problems which affect him vitally on his job and at home, such as labor conditions under the codes, the interpretation of State or Federal labor legislation, and economic security. The teacher's position is primarily that of a discussion leader. His job is not to teach certain predetermined facts, but to guide and aid the workers in analyzing and solving their own problems.

Classes usually meet twice a week for 2 hours in the evening. Little home study is required and outside assignments are rare. No grades or examinations are given.

The "workshop" method of educating adults is also used extensively in workers' classes. Graphic charts of economic conditions, maps of State legislation, and miniature models of machinery made by the worker himself bring to life dry statistics and colorless words. Dramatic skits which interpret current conditions, such as the effect of the drought on a midwestern farm family, have proven popular as a means of translating the worker's experience into vivid form. Drama classes write their own plays and present them at union meetings, public gatherings, and over the radio.

Teachers must be either on relief or eligible for relief in order to get a job under the workers' educational program of the F.E.R.A. In March 1935, the 552 teachers and supervisors of workers' classes were paid a total of approximately $27,300 in wages and salaries. Individual earnings of teachers varied greatly, depending upon the State in which the work was carried on. Salaries of teachers and advisers constitute 99 percent of the money spent by the F.E.R.A. on workers' education. The balance is spent on materials and rent.

Suitable, up-to-date reading material for workers' classes is provided with the

A SOCIAL SCIENCE WORKSHOP FOR COLORED TEACHERS

aid of public libraries, Government departments, labor and other organizations interested in workers' education, and individuals. In one case, the State industrial commission prepares special summaries on current topics, such as the provisions of the unemployment-insurance act, old-age pension laws, and other labor legislation. The Labor Information Bulletin, recently inaugurated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, is often used as a guide for discussion in current economic and labor problems.

Lists of books, magazines, and pamphlets suitable for use in workers' classes have been compiled by the Educational Division of the F.E.R.A. in Washington, D. C. These lists are supplied to all classes under the workers' educational program. The reading material recommended consists chiefly of up-to-date books on the history of labor in the United States, studies of major industries, modern books on agriculture and the farmers' problems, histories of the United States, novels, poetry, and plays which have as their themes the special problems of workers.

The problem of providing adequate textbooks and reading material is one of the most serious encountered by teachers of workers' classes. Most teachers have found it advisable to prepare their own study outlines.

Workers' education under the F.E.R.A. has also been handicapped by a scarcity of teachers who have a sound academic training combined with first-hand knowledge of labor conditions and experience in teaching adults. To meet this problem 18 institutes were organized last summer to train teachers in workers' education. Approximately 500 teachers attended these schools for a 6-week training period. The study program included practical courses in economics, government, and other social sciences, and classes in teaching methods. Factories and labor-union meetings were visited in order to acquaint teachers with some of the specific problems of industrial workers. A more intensive training program is planned for this summer.

The educational program under the Emergency Relief Administration does not aim to take over the entire field of workers' education in the country. Its purpose is rather to aid workers' groups and trade unions to conduct their own educational programs by providing them with unemployed teachers and the use of public-school facilities. It is felt that responsibility and control of workers' education should be vested in the workers themselves and in their own organizations.

THE COST OF LIVING IN MARCH 1935

The cost of living for wage earners and low-salaried employees in 32 large cities scattered throughout the United States advanced 1.8 percent between November 1934 and March 1935. It was more than 9 percent higher in March 1935 than in June 1933, at which time the average cost of goods and services purchased by families of wage earners was lower than at any time since 1917. In March 1935 wage earners paid approximately $1.09 for the same amounts of food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and other items combined for which they paid $1 in June 1933.

During the 4-month period from November 1934 to March 1935 the cost of living rose in all of the cities covered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics except Birmingham, Portland, Me., and San Francisco, where

declines of less than 1 percent occurred. In the 29 other cities the increases in the cost of living ranged from a fraction of 1 percent in Kansas City to 4.7 percent in Cincinnati.

Food costs increased almost 6 percent for the United States as a whole. This advance accounted for practically all of the increase in the cost of living between November 1934 and March 1935. The cost of clothing, fuel and light, house furnishings, and the miscellaneous group of items, which includes transportation, telephone, movies, medical and dental services, advanced by only a fraction of 1 percent. The average cost of rent for the country as a whole declined slightly.

Changes in the cost of living between November 1934 and March 1935 varied considerably among the different cities studied. For example, wage earners in Cincinnati paid approximately $1.14 in March 1935 for the same amount of food they paid $1 for in November 1934. In Portland, Me., on the other hand, workers paid slightly less for food in March than in November. During the 4-month period, November 1934 to March 1935, rents increased 3.3 percent in Detroit and declined 1.2 percent in San Francisco. Clothing increased 3 percent in Cincinnati and decreased 1.7 percent in Washington, D. C. Fuel and light were 3.8 percent higher in St. Louis, but 5.4 percent lower in Baltimore.

CHANGES IN THE COST OF LIVING IN 15 SELECTED CITIES*

AREA AND CITY	NOVEMBER 1934 TO MARCH 1935	JUNE 1934 TO MARCH 1935	JUNE 1933 TO MARCH 1935	JUNE 1928 TO MARCH 1935	1923–25 AVERAGE TO MARCH 1935
Average for the United States..	**1.8**	**2.8**	**8.1**	*18.8*	*19.5*
NORTH ATLANTIC:					
Boston.....	**1.1**	**2.0**	**8.2**	*16.7*	*17.1*
New York.....	**1.7**	**2.2**	**7.0**	*16.7*	*16.5*
Portland, Me.....	*.6*	*.5*	**6.8**	*15.1*	*16.1*
SOUTH ATLANTIC:					
Atlanta.....	**1.0**	**3.4**	**9.9**	*20.8*	*21.6*
Baltimore.....	**1.3**	**2.3**	**8.0**	*16.1*	*16.1*
Jacksonville.....	**.9**	**1.6**	**9.3**	*21.1*	*22.2*
NORTH CENTRAL:					
Chicago.....	**3.7**	**4.9**	**7.8**	*23.0*	*23.8*
Detroit.....	**2.5**	**3.0**	**12.2**	*23.4*	*26.3*
St. Louis.....	**2.7**	**3.6**	**8.3**	*18.8*	*18.6*
SOUTH CENTRAL:					
Birmingham.....	*.7*	**2.8**	**8.5**	*25.7*	*27.0*
Houston.....	**1.3**	**4.7**	**10.9**	*17.9*	*20.6*
New Orleans.....	**1.2**	**3.7**	**8.8**	*17.0*	*18.0*
WESTERN:					
Denver.....	**2.8**	**4.3**	**9.0**	*15.4*	*18.8*
San Francisco.....	*.4*	**2.8**	**7.1**	*15.4*	*15.8*
Seattle.....	**1.6**	**3.3**	**5.2**	*16.5*	*15.5*

* *Increases are in bold type; decreases in italics.*

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

Increases of approximately 38 percent in employment, 48 percent in pay rolls, and 8 percent in weekly earnings for workers employed in the petroleum industry were recorded during the first year of operation under the petroleum code. These gains, however, were not sufficient to overcome the large losses in employment, pay rolls, and weekly earnings which occurred in the industry during the 4 years between May 1929 and May 1933.

Employment, pay rolls, and weekly earnings in July 1934 were at a level somewhat below that of May 1929. Hourly earnings, however, were substantially higher than in May 1929. Hours of work declined approximately 30 percent from an average of 50 hours per week in May 1929 to 35 hours in July 1934.

These facts were revealed in a survey made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of 829 plants engaged in producing crude petroleum, transporting it through pipes into the refineries, and refining the crude oil into gasoline, kerosene, lubricating oil, and other petroleum products. The plants studied employed in July 1934 approximately 164,000 wage earners, or 70 percent of the workers engaged in the industry. The employment and wage data procured cover three periods: May 1929, a predepression month; May 1933, a precode month; and July 1934, 1 year after the adoption of the code.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS

Employment in the 829 plants covered declined from 191,000 wage earners in May 1929 to 119,000 in May 1933. By July 1934, 1 year after the petroleum code was put into effect, employment in these plants had risen sharply to 164,000 wage earners.

During the period between May 1929 and May 1933 employment fell by approximately 49 percent in drilling and producing, 39 percent in pipe lines, and 27 percent in refineries. A year after the petroleum code went into effect, employment in drilling and production was 62 percent above the low point of 14 months earlier. On pipe lines employment had risen by 32 percent and in refineries by 22 percent.

Despite these sharp increases, employment in July 1934 was still substantially smaller than in May 1929. For every 100 workers who had jobs in each of the three branches of the industry in May 1929, 83 were employed in drilling and production in July 1934, 81 on pipe lines, and 90 in refineries.

During the period covered, weekly pay rolls fluctuated somewhat more violently than employment, but on the whole they followed a similar trend. The total weekly pay rolls of the plants studied were reduced from approximately $6,100,000 in May

EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

	EMPLOYMENT			PAY ROLLS		
	MAY 1929	MAY 1933	JULY 1934	MAY 1929	MAY 1933	JULY 1934
Total	191,000	119,000	164,000	$6,078,000	$2,949,000	$4,379,000
Drilling and production.	82,000	42,000	68,000	2,738,000	1,038,000	1,813,000
Pipe lines	24,000	15,000	20,000	677,000	370,000	540,000
Refineries	85,000	62,000	76,000	2,658,000	1,541,000	2,026,000

1929 to $2,950,000 in May 1933. This is a drop of slightly more than 50 percent. By July 1934, weekly pay rolls had risen 48 percent to approximately $4,400,000. For every $100 paid out in weekly wages in each branch of the industry in May 1929, drilling and production wage earners received $38 in May 1933, and $66 in July 1934; pipe-line workers received $55 in May 1933, and $80 in July 1934; refinery workers averaged $58 in May 1933 and $76 in July 1934.

Between May 1929 and May 1933 weekly pay rolls declined more rapidly than employment because the decreased employment was accompanied by large reductions in working time and by falling wage rates. Between May 1933 and July 1934 pay rolls advanced more rapidly than employment because of the higher hourly wage rates set by the code.

Changes in employment and pay rolls varied greatly in the different crude-petroleum producing areas. In Texas, Louisiana, and Kansas the opening of new fields raised employment in July 1934 above the May 1929 level. In California and Oklahoma, on the other hand, employment declined more rapidly than in other areas during the years of depression, and recovery after May 1933 was slower.

For every 1,000 workers employed in drilling and crude oil production in each area in May 1929, there were at work:

In May 1933 --	In July 1934 --
378 in California	517 in California
467 in Oklahoma	723 in Oklahoma
702 in Texas	1,138 in Kansas
738 in Kansas	1,377 in Texas
786 in Louisiana	1,553 in Louisiana

Weekly pay rolls experienced similar changes, decreasing most (74 percent) in California between May 1929 and May 1933, and least (37 percent) in Texas. Between May 1933 and July 1934 the largest advance in pay rolls (116 percent) was registered in Louisiana and the smallest (53 percent) in California.

EARNINGS AND HOURS OF WORK

Hourly Earnings. Increased minimum-wage rates under the code advanced average hourly earnings of the workers employed in the petroleum industry in July 1934 considerably above the May 1929 level. Hourly earnings averaged:

EARNINGS AND HOURS OF WORK IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

	WEEKLY EARNINGS			HOURS WORKED PER WEEK			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAY 1929	MAY 1933	JULY 1934	MAY 1929	MAY 1933	JULY 1934	MAY 1929	MAY 1933	JULY 1934
Drilling and production.	$34	$25	$27	51	45	34	$0.66	$0.56	$0.79
Pipe lines.....	27	25	27	50	45	35	.54	.55	.78
Refineries.....	31	25	27	49	41	35	.64	.60	.75

In drilling and production --
66 cents in May 1929
56 cents in May 1933
79 cents in July 1934

On pipe lines --
54 cents in May 1929
55 cents in May 1933
78 cents in July 1934

In refineries --
64 cents in May 1929
60 cents in May 1933
75 cents in July 1934

During the entire period between May 1929 and July 1934, the workers engaged in drilling and producing crude oil in California averaged higher earnings per hour than workers employed in identical occupations in other oil-producing areas. Hourly earnings in California also remained steadiest, moving from an average of 87 cents in May 1929 to 79 cents in May 1933 and to 86 cents in July 1934.

Weekly Earnings and Hours of Work. Weekly earnings of individual workers employed in the three branches of the petroleum industry declined between May 1929 and May 1933. Wage earners employed in the drilling and crude-petroleum production branch of the industry were the hardest hit during these 4 years. Their earnings declined from an average of $34 per week in May 1929 to $25 per week in May 1933. This is a decrease of 26 percent. During the same period, weekly earnings of refinery workers declined 21 percent, from $31 to $25; those of pipe-line workers declined 7 percent, from $27 to $25 per week.

The drop in weekly earnings between May 1929 and May 1933 was due partly to fewer hours worked per week. Weekly hours were reduced from 51 to 45 in drilling and production, from 50 to 45 on pipe lines, and from 49 to 41 in refineries.

Under the code, weekly hours of work continued to decline to conform to the 36-hour average maximum set by the code. Despite the shorter work week, however, the average weekly earnings for all workers employed in the petroleum industry advanced from $25 in May 1933 to $27 in July 1934. This advance was due chiefly to the higher hourly minimum-wage rates set by the code.

Occupations of Workers on Relief

Forty-four and one-half percent, or 1,549,000, of the 3,485,000 men and women between the ages of 16 and 64 receiving relief in urban areas in May 1934 had previously been employed in manufacturing and mechanical industries. Workers formerly employed in these industries, which include building trades, iron and steel, textiles, automobile manufacturing, etc., constituted the largest single group of workers on city relief rolls in May 1934.

The service trades, such as hotels, restaurants, laundries, cleaning and pressing establishments, and barber shops, supplied the second largest group of workers on relief. They accounted for 649,400 persons, or 18.6 percent of all the workers on urban relief. Transportation and communication contributed 393,600 workers, or 11.3 percent of the total; wholesale and retail trade 315,800 workers, or 9.1 percent. Farmers and farm laborers on relief numbered 183,100 and constituted 5.2 percent of the total. The 162,900 white-collar workers on urban relief rolls in May 1934 accounted for 4.7 percent of the total.

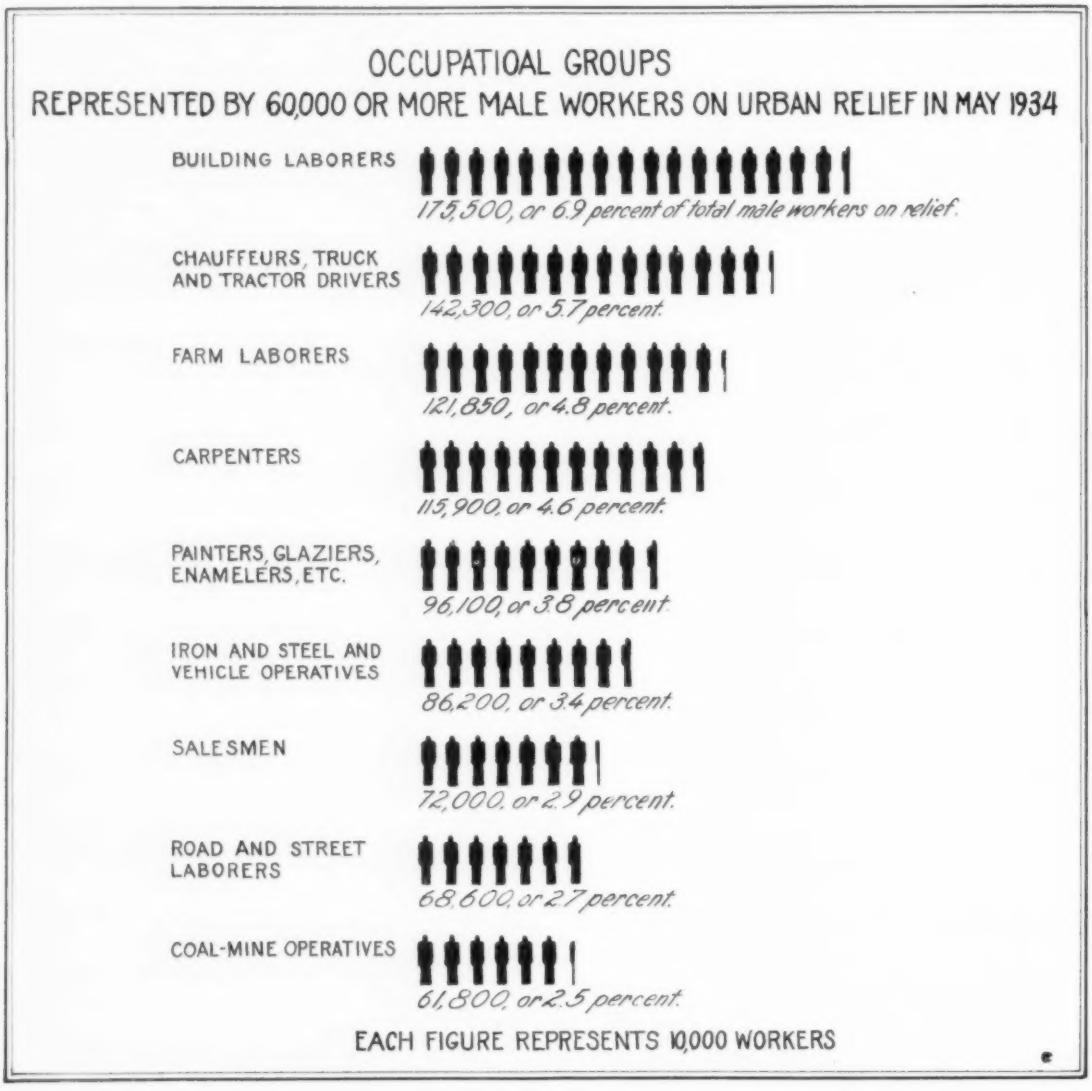
These estimates are based on a survey made by the Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance of the F.E.R.A., covering occupational characteristics of workers on relief in May 1934 in 60 representative cities having a population of 25,000 or more. Out of every 1,000 persons on relief in these cities:

444	came from	manufacturing and mechanical industries
186	"	" domestic and personal service
113	"	" transportation and communication
91	"	" trade
52	"	" agriculture
47	"	" business offices
30	"	" mining

Skilled Occupations. The building and allied trades supplied the largest number of skilled workers on urban relief. The five major building trades were represented on relief rolls by 115,900 carpenters, 96,100 painters, 38,100 brick and stone masons and tile layers, 33,000 plumbers, gas and steam fitters, 32,200 plasterers and cement finishers.

Other skilled workers whose numbers on relief in May 1934 totaled more than 30,000 were: mechanics, 59,300; and machinists, millwrights, and toolmakers, 37,600.

were: iron and steel and vehicles, 92,200; textiles, 77,100; clothing, 69,000; food and allied products, 47,600; leather, 32,200; and lumber and furniture, 31,800.

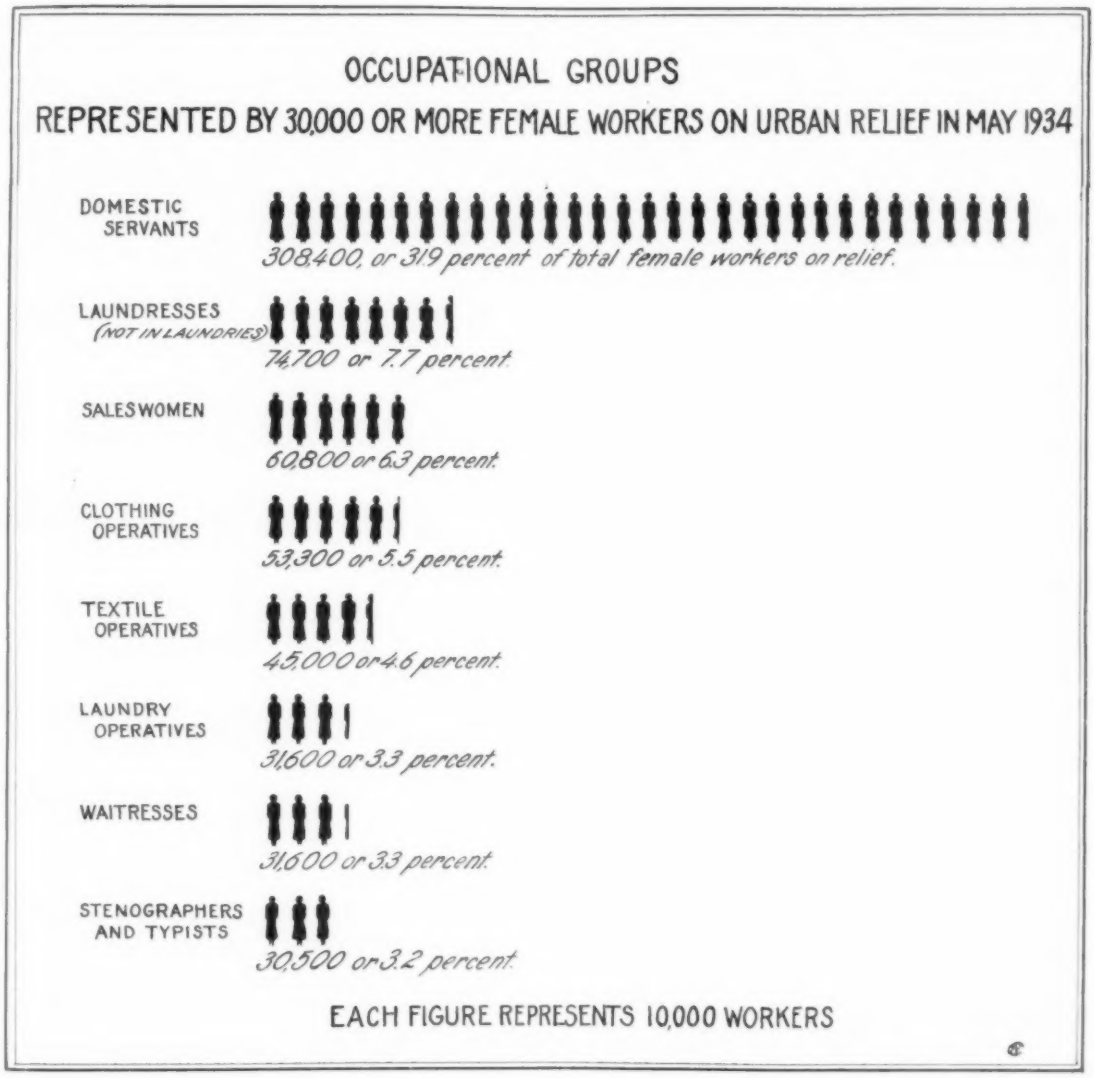

OCCUPATIOAL GROUPS
REPRESENTED BY 60,000 OR MORE MALE WORKERS ON URBAN RELIEF IN MAY 1934
BUILDING LABORERS
175,500, or 6.9 percent of total male workers on relief.
CHAUFFEURS, TRUCK AND TRACTOR DRIVERS
142,300, or 5.7 percent.
FARM LABORERS
121,850, or 4.8 percent.
CARPENTERS
115,900, or 4.6 percent.
PAINTERS, GLAZIERS, ENAMELERS, ETC.
96,100, or 3.8 percent.
IRON AND STEEL AND VEHICLE OPERATIVES
86,200, or 3.4 percent.
SALESMEN
72,000, or 2.9 percent.
ROAD AND STREET LABORERS
68,600, or 2.7 percent.
COAL-MINE OPERATIVES
61,800, or 2.5 percent.
EACH FIGURE REPRESENTS 10,000 WORKERS

Semiskilled Occupations. Approximately 522,500 men and women formerly in semiskilled occupations in manufacturing and mechanical industries were on city relief rolls in May 1934. Industries with more than 30,000 semiskilled workers on relief

Unskilled Labor. The building trades were also responsible for the largest number of unskilled laborers on urban relief. They accounted for 175,500 workers. Other industries with more than 30,000 unskilled workers

on relief were: agriculture, 132,500; road and street building, 68,500; railroad transportation, 50,400; and iron and steel, machinery, and vehicles, 39,800.

308,400 had been employed as domestic servants. Semiskilled occupations, chiefly machine operatives in clothing and textile industries and in cigar and tobacco factories,



Woman Workers on Urban Relief Rolls. More than one-half of the woman workers on urban relief rolls had previously been employed in domestic and personal services. These services accounted for 510,900 women on urban relief in May 1934. Of these, accounted for 216,000 women on relief; clerical occupations, largely stenographers, typists, and clerks, accounted for 75,500; trade, principally retail, for 73,500; and professional services for 35,700.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS IN MAY 1935

Seasonal declines in factory employment and retail trade were largely responsible for the estimated employment decrease in the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries of approximately 126,000 workers between April and May 1935. Weekly pay rolls for the month declined by $3,900,000.

Following the seasonal expansion for spring and Easter trade in April, retail trade provided employment for approximately 53,000 fewer workers in May than in the preceding month. Approximately 11,000 fewer workers were employed in wholesale trade.

Larger employment in May than in April was reported in private building construction and in quarrying and nonmetal mining. Employment and pay rolls also advanced in anthracite and bituminous-coal mining, in crude-oil petroleum, in laundries, and dyeing and cleaning establishments.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Estimated employment in manufacturing industries declined from 6,906,000 in April to 6,804,000 in May. This is a drop of 102,000. Weekly pay rolls were reduced from $144,000,000 in April to $139,300,000 in May, a decrease of $4,700,000.

The decline in employment and pay rolls was less noticeable in the durable-goods group than in the nondurable-goods group. The most pronounced changes, both in employment and pay rolls, were seasonal in character. Construction and the allied trades showed the largest gains during the month. Substantial seasonal advances in employment and pay rolls were reported in cement, beet sugar, brick, plumbing supplies, woolen and worsted goods, and cast-iron pipe. Large seasonal declines in employment and pay rolls were reported in fertilizers, cottonseed products, women's clothing, silk and rayon, boots and shoes, and cotton goods.

EMPLOYMENT

Employment Decreased Slightly in the Durable-Goods Industries. Employment in the durable-goods industries in May is estimated at 3,088,000, or 15,300 less than in the previous month. Slight increases in employment were reported in stone, clay, and glass (6,300), railroad repair shops (3,400), and iron and steel (800). The remaining durable-goods groups employed fewer workers in May than in April, the declines being 11,800 in transportation equipment, 7,300 in lumber, 5,300 in machinery, and 1,400 in nonferrous metals.

The durable-goods industries employed 11,800 fewer workers in May of this year than a year ago. Compared with last year, employment increased by 28,100 in machinery manufacturing, 16,900 in transportation equipment, and 7,300 in nonferrous metals. Employment declined by 28,900 in railroad repair shops, 24,900 in iron and steel, 9,400 in stone, clay, and glass, and 900 in lumber.

Employment Declined in the Nondurable-Goods Industries. The nondurable-goods industries employed approximately 3,716,000 workers in May, compared with 3,803,000 in the preceding month. This is a decrease of 87,000. With the exception of the foodstuffs group, which employed 2,800 more workers, all groups of nondurable-goods industries employed fewer workers in May than in April. Employment declined by --

- 60,300 in textiles
- 13,600 in leather products
- 11,500 in chemicals
- 2,100 in paper and printing
- 1,700 in rubber
- 300 in tobacco products
- 300 in unclassified industries

Over the 12-month period, between May 1934 and May 1935, employment in the nondurable-goods industries declined by 97,000. Chemicals and paper and printing were the only groups of nondurable-goods industries with larger employment this May than a year ago. Employment increased by 6,300 in chemicals and 3,200 in paper and printing.

ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

MAY 1935, APRIL 1935, and MAY 1934

INDUSTRY	NUMBER OF WORKERS EMPLOYED			AMOUNT OF WEEKLY PAY ROLL		
	MAY 1935*	APRIL 1935‡	MAY 1934	MAY 1935*	APRIL 1935‡	MAY 1934
All industries	6,803,800	6,906,100	6,912,600	$139,325,000	$144,075,000	$136,575,000
Durable-goods groups:	*3,087,600*	*3,102,900*	*3,099,400*	*68,457,000*	*70,348,000*	*66,658,000*
Iron and steel	621,100	620,300	646,000	14,400,000	14,647,000	15,091,000
Machinery	742,000	747,300	713,900	16,038,000	15,991,000	14,713,000
Transportation equipment	578,700	590,500	561,800	16,216,000	17,679,000	15,200,000
Railroad repair shops	258,400	255,000	287,300	7,121,000	6,876,000	7,297,000
Nonferrous metals	227,200	228,600	219,900	4,639,000	4,720,000	4,441,000
Lumber	467,500	474,800	468,400	6,465,000	6,946,000	6,409,000
Stone, clay, and glass	192,700	186,400	202,100	3,578,000	3,489,000	3,507,000
Nondurable-goods groups:	*3,716,200*	*3,803,200*	*3,813,200*	*70,868,000*	*73,727,000*	*69,917,000*
Textiles	1,523,500	1,583,800	1,565,900	23,915,000	26,101,000	23,472,000
Leather	282,400	296,000	295,700	5,107,000	5,526,000	5,512,000
Foods	635,500	632,700	665,400	13,239,000	13,030,000	13,296,000
Tobacco	78,300	78,600	84,800	975,000	959,000	1,030,000
Paper and printing	512,500	514,600	509,300	12,606,000	12,576,000	11,981,000
Chemicals	359,800	371,300	353,500	7,894,000	7,980,000	7,352,000
Rubber	109,100	110,800	119,700	2,317,000	2,469,000	2,438,000
Unclassified	215,100	215,400	218,900	4,815,000	5,086,000	4,836,000

* *Preliminary* ‡ *Revised*

In the other nondurable-goods groups employment declined by --

42,400 in textiles
29,900 in foodstuffs
13,300 in leather products
10,600 in rubber
6,500 in tobacco products

PAY ROLLS

Pay Rolls Declined in the Durable-Goods Industries. The weekly wage income of workers employed in the durable-goods industries declined from $70,300,000 in April to $68,500,000 in May. This is a drop of $1,800,000. Increases in the weekly pay rolls were reported by railroad repair shops ($245,000), machinery manufacturing ($47,000), and stone, clay, and glass ($89,000). The other durable-goods industries registered lower weekly pay rolls. The decline in transportation equipment was $1,463,000; in lumber, $481,000; in iron and steel, $247,000; and in nonferrous metals, $81,000.

The estimated weekly pay rolls in the durable- goods industries were $1,800,000 larger this May than a year ago. Iron and steel and railroad repair shops were the only groups with lower weekly pay rolls this year than in May 1934. The weekly income of workers employed in iron and steel was reduced by $691,000, and that of railroad repair shops by $176,000. In the other durable-goods industries the weekly wages of the workers employed were increased by --

$1,325,000 in machinery manufacturing
1,016,000 in transportation equipment
198,000 in nonferrous metals
71,000 in stone, clay, and glass
56,000 in lumber

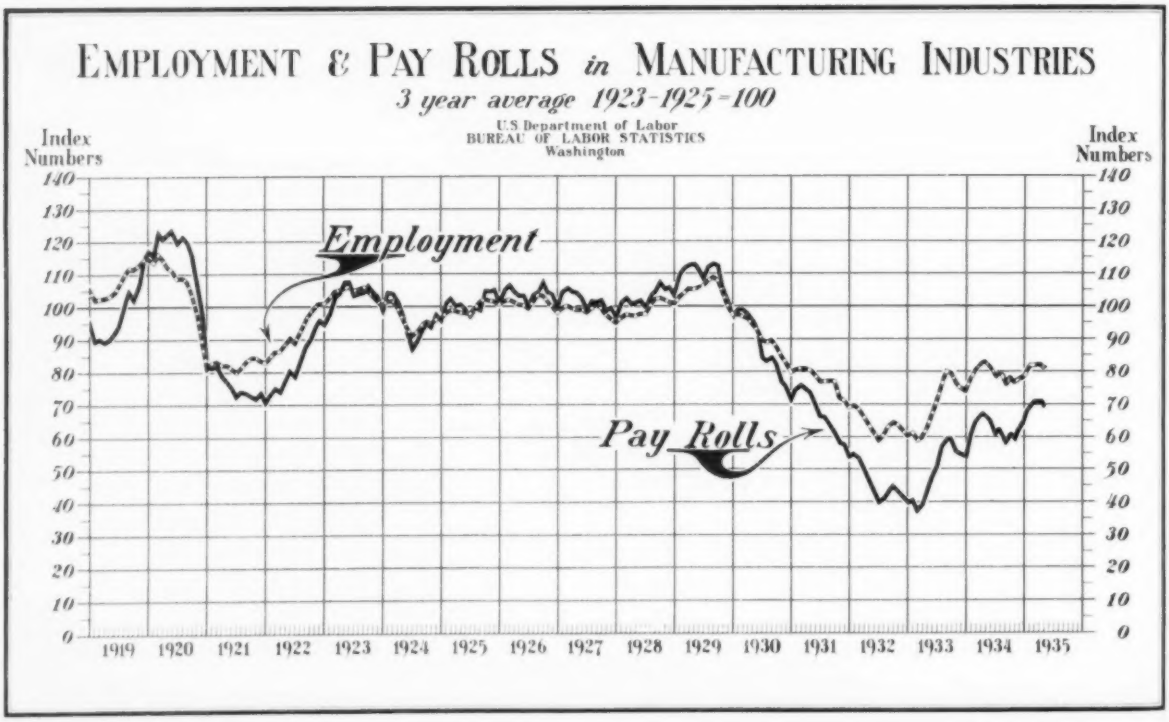
Pay Rolls Declined in the Nondurable-Goods Industries. Between April and May 1935 the total weekly pay rolls of the nondurable-goods industries declined by $2,860,000, from $73,730,000 in April to $70,870,000 in May. Higher pay rolls were reported in: foodstuffs, $209,000; paper and printing, $30,000; and tobacco manufacturing, $16,000. These gains were more than offset by losses of $2,186,000 in textiles, $419,000 in leather products, $152,000 in rubber; and $86,000 in chemicals.

Compared with May 1934, total weekly pay rolls in the nondurable-goods industries were $951,000 larger this May. Over the 12-month period, the weekly wage income of the workers employed advanced by $625,000 in paper and printing, $542,000 in chemicals, and $443,000 in textiles. These advances in the weekly pay rolls were somewhat reduced by losses of $405,000 in leather products, $121,000 in rubber, $57,000 in foodstuffs, and $55,000 in tobacco manufactures.

TREND OF EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

The Bureau of Labor Statistics employment index for May 1935 was 81.2, compared with 82.4 in April and 82.5 in May 1934. In other words, for every 1,000 persons employed on the average during 1923-25, 812 persons had jobs in May, 824 in April 1935, and 825 in May a year ago.

The May 1935 pay-roll index was 68.5, compared with 70.8 in April and 67.1 in May 1934. This means that for every $100 paid out in weekly wages during 1923-25, workers received on the average $68.50 in May, $70.80 in April 1935, and $67.10 in May of the year previous.



HOURS OF WORK AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Employment in manufacturing industries in May 1935 averaged 36 hours per week -- approximately half an hour per week less than in the previous month and half an hour per week more than in May 1934. Earnings per hour averaged 57 cents in May, the same as in April, and 55 cents in May 1934. The 1935 averages are based on reports of 21,006 establishments with 3,474,189 employees. The May 1934 average is based on records of 17,391 establishments with 3,087,135 wage earners.

HOURS OF WORK AND HOURLY EARNINGS

In the five selected representative durable-goods industries the average weekly hours and the average hourly earnings in May 1935 were --

Weekly hours:
- 37 in automobiles
- 37 in foundries and machine shops
- 34 in blast furnaces and rolling mills
- 34 in brick manufacturing
- 33 in sawmills

Hourly earnings (in cents):
- 72.5 in automobiles
- 66.5 in blast furnaces and rolling mills
- 60.0 in foundries and machine shops
- 44.5 in brick manufacturing
- 42.5 in sawmills

In the five selected representative nondurable- goods industries the average weekly hours and the average earnings per hour in May 1935 were --

Weekly hours:
- 40.0 in slaughtering and meat packing
- 38.0 in paper and pulp
- 35.0 in petroleum refining
- 33.5 in cotton-goods manufacturing
- 30.5 in tires and inner tubes

Hourly earnings (in cents):
- 83.5 in tires and inner tubes
- 79.0 in petroleum refining
- 56.0 in slaughtering and meat packing
- 52.5 in paper and pulp
- 38.0 in cotton-goods manufacturing

Employment in brick manufacturing averaged 2.5 hours per week more this May than a year ago. Slight increases in the weekly hours of work were also reported in automobiles, foundries and machine shops, cotton goods, and paper and pulp.

Blast furnaces averaged 2½ hours per week less this May than in 1934. Slight reductions in the weekly hours of work were also registered in sawmills, petroleum refining, and tires and inner tubes.

Eight of the 10 selected durable- and nondurable-goods industries averaged higher earnings per hour in May 1935 than in May 1934. The increase ranged from 1 cent per hour in brick manufacturing to 7 cents in tires and inner tubes. Cotton-goods manufacturing and sawmills averaged 1½ cents per hour less than a year ago.

WEEKLY EARNINGS

Wage earners employed in manufacturing industries in May 1935 averaged $20.80 per week, compared with $21.15 in April 1935 and $19.80 in May 1934.

These averages are based on total pay-roll reports and include part-time as well as full-time employees. The 1935 averages cover 3,763,238 wage earners employed in 23,516 establishments. The 1935 average is based on earnings of 3,814,439 wage earners employed in 22,725 establishments.

Wage earners employed in the five selected representative durable-goods industries in May 1935 averaged per week --

- $26.75 in automobiles
- 22.65 in blast furnaces and rolling mills
- 22.20 in foundries and machine shops
- 15.35 in brick manufacturing
- 14.15 in sawmills

The average weekly earnings of the workers employed in the five representative nondurable- goods industries in May 1935 were --

$27.40 in petroleum refining
25.45 in tires and inner tubes
22.80 in slaughtering and meat packing
20.00 in paper and pulp
12.75 in cotton-goods manufacturing

Automobile workers averaged $2.05 per week more this May than a year ago. Other increases in weekly earnings, ranging from 10 cents to $1.60, were reported in cotton-goods manufacturing, tires and inner tubes, foundries and machine shops, brick manufacturing, paper and pulp, and slaughtering and meat packing. Workers employed in sawmills averaged 80 cents per week less and those in blast furnaces and rolling mills 95 cents per week less this May than in May 1934.

EMPLOYMENT, PAY ROLLS, WAGES, AND HOURS IN SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	MAY 1935*	APRIL 1935‡	MAY 1934
RETAIL TRADE			
Employment.....	3,221,900	3,275,100	3,248,500
Weekly pay roll.	$56,884,000	$57,378,000	$56,449,000
Weekly hours....	41	41	42
Hourly earnings.	$0.53	$0.53	$0.53
Weekly earnings.	$20.30	$20.25	$19.75
WHOLESALE TRADE			
Employment.....	1,324,100	1,335,400	1,328,900
Weekly pay roll.	$37,395,000	$37,511,000	$36,237,000
Weekly hours....	41	41	42
Hourly earnings.	$0.66	$0.66	$0.62
Weekly earnings.	$27.00	$27.00	$26.50
STEAM RAILROADS			
Employment.....	985,100	965,200	1,032,000
Weekly pay roll.	$30,984,000	$29,974,000	$28,835,000
Weekly earnings.	$31.45	$31.05	$27.95
BITUMINOUS COAL			
Employment.....	345,400	340,800	351,800
Weekly pay roll.	$5,428,000	$4,974,000	$6,013,000
Weekly hours....	23	21.5	26.5
Hourly earnings.	$0.74	$0.73	$0.71
Weekly earnings.	$16.70	$15.60	$18.25
TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH			
Employment.....	375,200	372,600	376,300
Weekly pay roll.	$10,657,000	$10,570,000	$10,324,000
Weekly hours....	38.5	38	38
Hourly earnings.	$0.75	$0.75	$0.72
Weekly earnings.	$27.90	$27.80	$27.00

INDUSTRY	MAY 1935*	APRIL 1935‡	MAY 1934
HOTELS			
Employment.....	266,300	268,500	268,800
Weekly pay roll.	$3,484,000	$3,521,000	$3,447,000
Weekly hours....	48	48	47
Hourly earnings.	$0.28	$0.28	$0.27
Weekly earnings.	$13.60	$13.65	$13.20
POWER and LIGHT			
Employment.....	266,200	264,300	265,900
Weekly pay roll.	$7,586,000	$7,510,000	$7,377,000
Weekly hours....	39.5	39.5	39
Hourly earnings.	$0.77	$0.77	$0.75
Weekly earnings.	$30.35	$30.40	$29.40
ELECTRIC RAILROADS			
Employment.....	191,200	190,600	193,800
Weekly pay roll.	$5,439,000	$5,413,000	$5,388,000
Weekly earnings.	$28.23	$28.17	$27.73
LAUNDRIES			
Employment.....	189,100	186,600	191,500
Weekly pay roll.	$2,931,000	$2,883,000	$2,944,000
Weekly hours....	40.5	40.5	40
Hourly earnings.	$0.37	$0.37	$0.38
Weekly earnings.	$15.60	$15.55	$15.35
DYEING & CLEANING			
Employment.....	47,800	47,200	49,800
Weekly pay roll.	$901,000	$904,000	$950,000
Weekly hours....	42	42.5	41.5
Hourly earnings.	$0.44	$0.45	$0.45
Weekly earnings.	$18.50	$18.80	$18.70

* *Preliminary* ‡ *Revised*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN MAY 1935

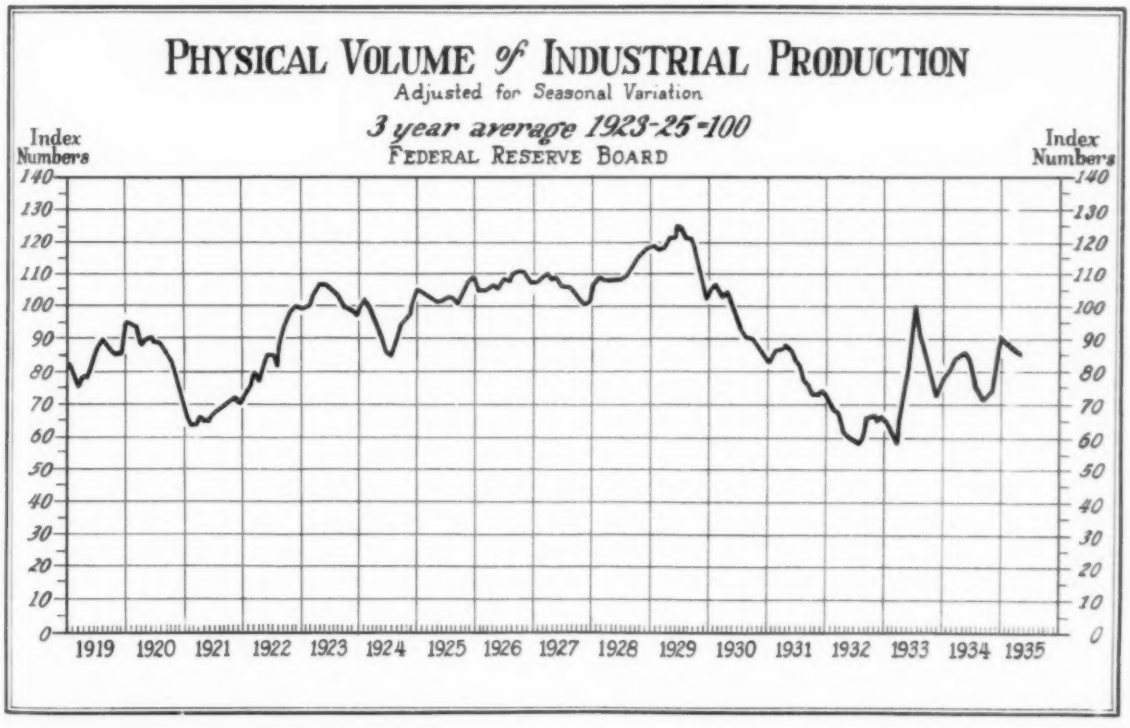
AGRICULTURE

The total cash income of farmers, including rental and benefit payments, in May 1935 is estimated by the Department of Agriculture at $520,000,000, compared with $506,000,000 in April and $438,000,000 in May 1934. Cash income from the sale of farm products totaled $484,000,000 in May 1935, $457,000,000 in April, and $422,000,000 in May 1934. Rental and benefit payments in May 1935 totaled $36,000,000, compared with $49,000,000 in the preceding month and $16,000,000 in May of last year.

INDUSTRY AND TRADE

The volume of industrial production continued to decline in May 1935. Output at steel mills decreased slightly and production of automobiles declined sharply. Production increased in coal mines, woolen mills, and residential construction.

The Federal Reserve Board's adjusted index of industrial production in May was 85, compared to 100 in 1923-25, 86 in April, and 86 in May 1934. May was the fourth consecutive month of gradual decline from the recent high level of 90 reached in January.



BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL BAROMETERS

Automobiles. Total output of cars and trucks in the United States in May 1935 is estimated at 364,700 units -- 113,000 cars less than in April and 34,000 cars more than in May a year ago.

Bituminous Coal. Production of bituminous coal in May 1935 is estimated at 26,790,000 tons -- 4,870,000 tons more than in the previous month but 595,000 tons less than in the corresponding month a year ago.

Building Permits. The increase in building construction, noticeable since the beginning of the year, continued during the month of May. The total value of building permits issued in 773 identical cities, for which statistics are collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, was approximately $69,800,000 -- $1,350,000, or 2 percent, more than in April, and $14,700,000, or 27 percent, more than in May 1934.

Cotton Textiles. The cotton-textile industry consumed in May 1935, 469,000 bales of raw cotton, approximately the same as in the previous month but 51,000 bales less than in May a year ago.

Electric Power. Production of electric power in May 1935 is estimated at 1,685 million kilowatt hours per week -- 15 million kilowatt hours per week less than in April, but 54 million kilowatt hours per week more than in May of last year.

Railroad Freight Car Loadings. Class I railroads averaged 578,500 freight cars loaded per week during May 1935 -- 3,200 cars per week more than in the previous month, but 26,700 cars per week less than in the corresponding month a year ago.

Retail Trade. The value of sales of two large mail-order houses in May was approximately $58,100,000 -- $1,500,000 less than in April, but $7,000,000 more than in May 1934.

Steel. Total output of steel ingots in May was 2,602,000 tons -- 4,000 tons less than in the previous month and 751,000 tons less than in May a year ago.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT AND RELIEF IN MAY 1935

Public Works. More people were employed on P.W.A. construction projects in May 1935 than in any month since November 1934. Approximately 393,000 persons were working at the site of construction on P.W.A. projects in May. This is an increase of 60,000 over the previous month. The total pay roll for the month was approximately $24,400,000.

Emergency Conservation Work. The number of workers enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps in May was estimated at 385,000, or 17,000 more than in the previous month. Their total pay roll for the month was approximately $17,700,000.

Emergency Relief Work. Approximately 2,200,000 persons were receiving relief work provided by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in May. Their total pay roll for the month is estimated at $63,000,000.

Emergency Relief. Preliminary reports to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration from 145 cities indicate that the number of cases receiving emergency relief declined from 2,164,000 in April to approximately 2,127,000 in May. Expenditures for emergency relief declined from approximately $69,800,000 in April to $68,200,000 in May.

WHAT HAPPENED TO PRICES IN MAY 1935

Wholesale Prices. Wholesale commodity prices in May 1935 registered a fractional advance over the previous month. They were 8.8 percent higher than in May a year ago. The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of wholesale prices was 80.2 in May 1935, compared with 100 in 1926, 80.1 in April 1935, and 73.7 in May 1934. In other words, in May 1935, $80.20 could purchase at wholesale the same amount of commodities that cost $80.10 in April 1935, $73.70 in May 1934, and $100 in 1926.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

ITEM	1926	MAY 1935	MAY 1934	INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) MAY 1934 TO MAY 1935
	Index	*Index*	*Index*	*Percent*
All commodities	100	80.2	73.7	+ 8.82
Farm products	100	80.6	59.6	+ 35.23
Raw materials	100	77.6	65.1	+ 19.20
Semimanufactured articles .	100	73.5	73.7	- .27
Finished products	100	82.4	77.8	+ 5.91

Retail Food Prices. The average price of 42 food articles in 51 cities scattered throughout the United States was slightly lower in May 1935 than in the preceding month. It was nearly 15 percent higher than in May a year ago. The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of retail food prices in May 1935 was 77.4, compared with 100 in 1926, 77.6 in April 1935, and 67.4 in May 1934. This means that for every dollar's worth of food bought in retail establishments in 1926, the consumer paid approximately 77¼ cents in May and in April 1935, as against 67¼ cents in May 1934.

AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES FOR THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE

ITEM	RETAIL PRICE		INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) MAY 1934 TO MAY 1935	
	MAY 1935	MAY 1934		
	Cents	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Percent*
Bread, pound	8.3	8.0	+ 0.3	+ 3.8
Butter, pound	34.3	29.6	+ 4.7	+15.9
Milk, quart	11.9	11.1	+ .8	+ 7.2
Eggs, dozen	31.8	23.4	+ 8.4	+35.9
Potatoes, pound . . .	2.1	2.7	- .6	-22.2
Lard, pound	18.8	10.1	+ 8.7	+86.1
Pork chops, pound . .	34.0	24.1	+ 9.9	+41.1
Round steak, pound . .	37.1	27.4	+ 9.7	+35.4
Sugar, pound	5.7	5.4	+ .3	+ 5.6
Coffee, pound	26.2	27.6	- 1.4	- 5.1

BUSINESS PROFITS AND LOSSES IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1935

The aggregate net profits of 279 industrial and mercantile concerns, 149 class I railroads, and 59 public utilities, during the first quarter of 1935, are estimated by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at $168,700,000, as compared with $163,500,000 during the first 3 months of 1934 and a net loss of $83,700,000 during the first quarter of 1933.

When industrial and mercantile concerns are considered by themselves, they show aggregate net profits during the first quarter of this year considerably larger than for the same period a year ago. These profits amounted to $154,800,000, compared with $117,800,000 in 1934, and a loss of $52,400,000 in 1933. During the first quarter of 1935, none of the 18 groups of corporations included in this sample registered a loss. In 1934 three groups showed losses, and in 1933, 12 showed losses. Automobiles and automobile parts and accessories registered the largest gain in net profits. During the first 3 months of 1935 the 37 corporations included in this group showed a net profit of $52,300,000, as compared with

NET PROFITS and LOSSES*

CORPORATION GROUPS	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	First quarter of --			
		1935	1934	1933	1932
Total	487	$168,700,000	$163,500,000	*$83,700,000*	$35,100,000
Automobiles	11	38,500,000	29,300,000	*1,600,000*	3,000,000
Automobile parts and accessories (exclusive of tires)	26	13,800,000	8,500,000	*4,500,000*	*2,500,000*
Building supplies	9	--	*700,000*	*3,300,000*	*2,000,000*
Chemicals and drugs	19	25,100,000	24,600,000	11,100,000	17,300,000
Clothing and textiles	9	600,000	800,000	*400,000*	*300,000*
Electrical equipment	9	7,900,000	2,600,000	*2,300,000*	2,200,000
Food products	35	22,300,000	27,200,000	19,200,000	26,000,000
Household equipment	7	1,300,000	700,000	*1,600,000*	*1,500,000*
Machinery and tools	13	2,000,000	400,000	*2,900,000*	*3,600,000*
Metals and mining	22	9,600,000	10,100,000	*2,000,000*	*100,000*
Office equipment	5	3,000,000	2,800,000	1,100,000	1,800,000
Oil	26	9,100,000	8,000,000	*27,900,000*	*1,700,000*
Paper and paper products	6	600,000	500,000	*200,000*	--
Printing and publishing	4	2,200,000	1,400,000	800,000	3,000,000
Public utilities (exclusive of telephone companies)	59	59,200,000	61,000,000	63,600,000	75,800,000
Railroads, class I	149	*45,300,000*	*15,300,000*	*94,900,000*	*54,400,000*
Railroad equipment	8	100,000	*900,000*	*2,900,000*	*1,200,000*
Steel	19	7,500,000	*7,300,000*	*34,600,000*	*28,500,000*
Tobacco	5	500,000	400,000	100,000	500,000
Miscellaneous	46	10,700,000	8,400,000	*500,000*	1,300,000

* *Losses in italic type*

$37,800,000 in 1934 and a loss of $6,100,000 in 1933. The 19 companies included in the steel sample converted a net loss of $7,300,000 during the first quarter of 1934 into a net profit of $7,500,000 during the same period of 1935. During the first quarter of 1933 these companies registered a net loss of $34,600,000.

The profits of the 59 public utilities (exclusive of telephone companies) included in this sample remained about the same. They are estimated at $59,200,000 for the first quarter of 1935, as compared with $61,000,000 in 1934 and $63,600,000 in 1933. Class I railroads, on the other hand, nearly trippled their losses of the previous year. During the first quarter of 1935 the 149 class I railroads registered a loss of $45,300,000, compared with a loss of $15,300,000 during the same period in 1934.

PACIFIC COAST CONFERENCE ON LABOR LEGISLATION

The need for progressive and more uniform State labor legislation and for better enforcement of existing labor laws was emphasized in the first Pacific Coast conference on labor standards, held in San Francisco March 24 and 25, 1935. The conference was called by the Secretary of Labor and was attended by more than 500 State labor officials, labor union officers, employers, and representatives of organizations interested in labor legislation.

The Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins, pointed out that the four Western States represented (California, Washington, Oregon, and Nevada) had been pioneers in the field of labor legislation, but the gains won by labor in State legislatures were threatened by inadequate enforcement of labor laws. Lack of funds and the absence of "teeth" in the laws passed were mentioned by the Secretary as causes of inadequate enforcement. She emphasized the desirability of uniform labor standards in the Pacific Coast area and asked for frequent conferences of those working on labor legislation within the four States.

The labor commissioners of California, Washington, and Oregon discussed the "necessity and inevitability of shorter hours of work" and the problems of wage adjustments and of prices that might result. The need for minimum-wage legislation for woman workers was stressed.

Among the other items discussed by the conference was the need for legislation bettering working and living conditions of agricultural and migratory labor, with emphasis on the precarious position of unorganized agricultural labor in the West because of the extremely low wage rates paid to Mexican, Filipino, and Japanese laborers.

The conference recommended:

Passage of the Wagner-Lewis-Dougherty Social Security Bill by Congress and the adoption of adequate unemployment-insurance measures in the four States represented.

Appointment of a special committee to continue the work for better standards of labor legislation.

Legislation to raise standards of agricultural labor.

Establishment of a minimum age of 14 years for children working in street trades.

Regulation of hours and wages of domestic woman workers.

Study by the U. S. Department of Labor of the possibilities of reemployment of 1,500 ferry-boat workers who will be laid off when the San Francisco Bay bridges are completed.

QUESTION AND ANSWER DEPARTMENT

1. HOW LARGE WAS THE NATIONAL INCOME IN 1933?

The national income, that is, the amount of money paid out for the goods produced and services rendered in the United States in 1933, is estimated at 46.8 billion dollars. It was 2.9 billion dollars smaller than the income in 1932 and represents a decline of 6 percent from the previous year. It was 35.5 billion dollars (or 43 percent) smaller than the 1929 national income. According to the Department of Commerce, the total national income was --

82.3	billion	dollars	in 1929
75.8	"	"	" 1930
63.3	"	"	" 1931
49.7	"	"	" 1932
46.8	"	"	" 1933

For every $100 of income received on the average by workers, farmers, business men, bankers, and other groups in the United States in 1929, they received $57 in 1933, $60 in 1932, $77 in 1931, and $92 in 1930.

2. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE *REAL* NATIONAL INCOME IN 1933 AS COMPARED WITH 1929?

The 35.5 billion dollars decline in the national income between 1929 and 1933 refers to the *money* paid out for goods produced and services rendered during these years. But the amount of goods and services which $1 could purchase in 1933 was considerably larger than what it could purchase in 1929. Between 1929 and 1933 the cost of living declined by approximately 25 percent. This means that each dollar of income paid out in 1933 purchased approximately 25 percent more goods and services than a dollar paid out in 1929. Taking into consideration this decline in the cost of living, it is estimated that the *real* national income, that is, the *goods* produced and *services* rendered, in 1933 was approximately 30 percent smaller than in 1929.

3. HOW WAS THE NATIONAL INCOME DISTRIBUTED IN 1933?

Those engaged in agriculture received 3.9 billion dollars in 1933, or approximately 8.3 percent of the total income paid out in that year. This is an increase of 600 million dollars over 1932, but only half as much as they received in 1929.

Those engaged in manufacturing received 8.1 billion dollars in 1933, or 17 percent of the total national income. This represents a decline of 400 million dollars (or 5 percent) from 1932, and a decline of 10 billion dollars (or 55 percent) when compared with 1929.

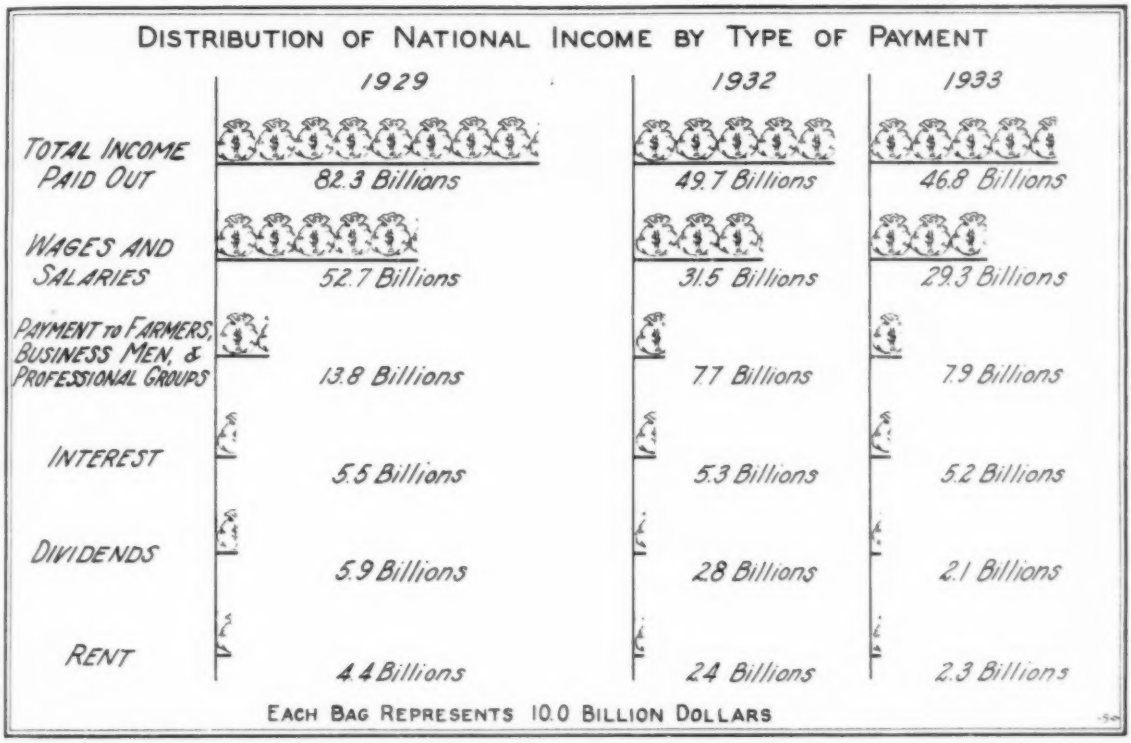
The construction industry suffered the largest decrease in income between 1929 and 1933. For every $100 of income received by those engaged in the construction industry in 1929, only $29 was received in 1932 and $26 in 1933.

INCOME PAID OUT, BY INDUSTRIAL DIVISION

INDUSTRY	BILLIONS OF DOLLAR		
	1933	1932	192
Total	46.8	49.7	82.
Agriculture	3.9	3.3	7.
Mining	.8	.8	2.
Electric light and power and gas	1.2	1.3	1.
Manufacturing	8.1	8.5	18.
Construction	.8	.9	3.
Transportation	3.7	4.1	6.
Communication	.7	.8	.
Trade	6.6	7.4	11.
Finance	6.2	6.7	10.
Government	6.5	6.8	6.
Service	5.2	5.8	8.
Miscellaneous	3.1	3.3	5.

4. WHAT HAPPENED TO WAGES AND SALARIES, INTEREST, RENT, AND DIVIDENDS IN 1933?

Almost two-thirds of the national income in 1933, or 29.3 billion dollars, was paid out in wages and salaries. The income of independent business men, farmers, and professional men amounted to 7.9 billion dollars, or 17 percent of the national income. Interest payments accounted for 5.2 billion dollars, or 11 percent, and rent for 2.3 billion dollars, or 5 percent. Dividends to investors totaled 2.1 billion dollars, or 4.5 percent of the national income.



Income from dividends suffered the greatest decline between 1929 and 1933. It dropped 64 percent, from 5.9 billion dollars in 1929 to 2.1 billion dollars in 1933. Income from interest, on the other hand, declined only slightly -- from 5.5 billion dollars in 1929 to 5.2 billion dollars in 1933 -- a decrease of 5 percent. Wages and salaries were reduced by 23.4 billion dollars, or 44 percent. The income of farmers, and professional and business men declined by 5.9 billion dollars, or 43 percent. Rent dropped 48 percent.

5. ARE RELIEF PAYMENTS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL INCOME?

No. The estimates of the Department of Commerce specifically exclude relief payments and such other disbursements by the Government as rental and benefit payments to farmers. The national income estimates also exclude earnings from odd jobs, from illegal pursuits, and transfers of income payments between countries. The value of the services of housewives and other members of the family is also excluded.

U. S. Department of Labor Exhibit at San Diego

The U. S. Department of Labor has an interesting and informative exhibit in the Federal Building at the California-Pacific International Exposition at San Diego. It presents in graphic form data of particular interest to the working people of the country. Some of the labor topics illustrated in panels at the exhibit are entitled:

Childhood is best conserved without child labor.

Jobs are vital to life, health, and happiness.

Jobs mean pay envelopes. Pay rolls mean purchasing power. Purchasing power means prosperity.

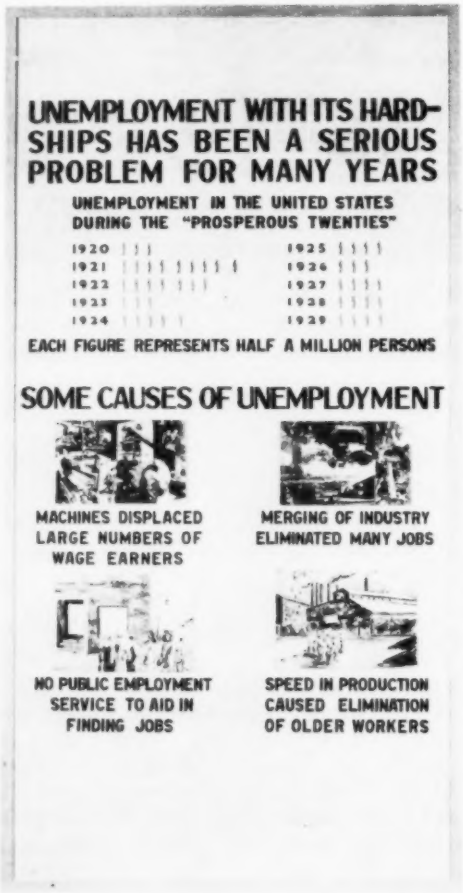
Delays between jobs can be reduced by a public employment service -- the link between the worker and the employer.

Accidents can be reduced.

Unemployment in the United States during the "prosperous twenties."

Occupational diseases cause human waste in industry.

How are our aged cared for?


UNEMPLOYMENT WITH ITS HARDSHIPS HAS BEEN A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR MANY YEARS
UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED STATES DURING THE "PROSPEROUS TWENTIES"
1920
1921
1922
1923
1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929
EACH FIGURE REPRESENTS HALF A MILLION PERSONS
SOME CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT
MACHINES DISPLACED LARGE NUMBERS OF WAGE EARNERS
MERGING OF INDUSTRY ELIMINATED MANY JOBS
NO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE TO AID IN FINDING JOBS
SPEED IN PRODUCTION CAUSED ELIMINATION OF OLDER WORKERS

Can a wage earner provide for old age?

A man should be able to live from the work he does.

Without unemployment insurance many more persons must resort to public aid for subsistence.

Building of low-cost homes will stimulate employment and production and bring a permanent improvement to the nation.

Labor regulations must be enforced.

Industry's greatest law breaker is the home-work system.

The wage earner's purchasing power depends upon the amount his dollar will buy.

The Secretary of Labor is hopeful that everyone who has an opportunity to attend the Exposition will visit the Department's exhibit. A staff representative is in constant attendance to explain charts and panels exhibited, to answer inquiries on labor questions, and to be generally helpful to visitors.